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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.
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08/943,356 10/01/97 CHARI

S MNFRAME.033A

KNOBBE MARTENS  
OLSON & BEAR  
620 NEWPORT CENTER DRIVE  
SIXTEENTH FLOOR  
NEWPORT BEACH CA 92660-8016

LM02/0519

EXAMINER

NAJJAR, S

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2758

DATE MAILED:

05/19/99

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**Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.**

**Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks**

# Office Action Summary

Application No.

08/943,356

Applicant(s)

Chari et al.

Examiner

Saleh Najjar

Group Art Unit

2758



☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on Oct 1, 1997

☐ This action is **FINAL**.

☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11; 453 O.G. 213.

A shortened statutory period for response to this action is set to expire 3 month(s), or thirty days, whichever is longer, from the mailing date of this communication. Failure to respond within the period for response will cause the application to become abandoned. (35 U.S.C. § 133). Extensions of time may be obtained under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a).

## Disposition of Claims

☒ Claim(s) 1-31 is/are pending in the application.

Of the above, claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.

☒ Claim(s) 1-31 is/are rejected.

☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.

☐ Claims \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction or election requirement.

## Application Papers

☒ See the attached Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948.

☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to by the Examiner.

☐ The proposed drawing correction, filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is ☐ approved ☐ disapproved.

☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

## Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d).

☐ All ☐ Some\* ☐ None of the CERTIFIED copies of the priority documents have been  
☐ received.

☐ received in Application No. (Series Code/Serial Number) \_\_\_\_\_.

☐ received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\*Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e).

## Attachment(s)

☒ Notice of References Cited, PTO-892

☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s), PTO-1449, Paper No(s). 3 and 7

☐ Interview Summary, PTO-413

☒ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948

☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application, PTO-152

--- SEE OFFICE ACTION ON THE FOLLOWING PAGES ---

1. This action is responsive to the application filed on October 1, 1997. Claims 1-31 are pending examination. Claims 1-31 represent an apparatus directed toward managing computer system alerts.

2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

This application currently names joint inventors. In considering patentability of the claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), the examiner presumes that the subject matter of the various claims was commonly owned at the time any inventions covered therein were made absent any evidence to the contrary. Applicant is advised of the obligation under 37 CFR 1.56 to point out the inventor and invention dates of each claim that was not commonly owned at the time a later invention was made in order for the examiner to consider the applicability of 35 U.S.C. 103© and potential 35 U.S.C. 102(f) or (g) prior art under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

3. Claims 1-27 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Bonnell et al., U.S. Patent No. 5,655,081.

Bonnell teaches the invention substantially as claimed including a system for monitoring and managing computer resources and applications across a distributed computing environment using an intelligent autonomous agent architecture.

As per claim 1, Bonnell teaches the claimed limitation of receiving a plurality of alerts, said alerts providing status information about different components in a computer using manager software system 34 of network management computer system 10 (see fig. 11; col. 9)

Bonnell further teaches selectively disabling the display of one or more of said alerts, and recording said status information associated with said disabled alerts in a storage medium using event manager 210 and event log 206 (see fig. 12; col. 9).

Bonnell does not explicitly state the limitation of an alert. However, Bonnell discloses an

event manager that is responsible for keeping a record of various occurrences throughout the computer network including occurrence of alarm conditions and their resolution (see col. 2-7). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify Bonnell by specifying alerts in place of events as taught by Bonnell since the same functionality is achieved.

As per claims 2-3, Bonnell teaches the claimed limitation storing whether each of said alerts is disabled or enabled in a plurality of variables; and storing information about said enabled and disabled alerts in said storage medium using event filter and system agent (see figs. 17-18; col. 12, lines 5-30, col. 13-14).

As per claims 4-5, Bonnell teaches the claimed limitation of recording a recommended course of action associated with one of said alerts; and generating a user interface which directs the selection of said alerts by providing a description of said alerts using graphical interface module (see col. 4).

As per claims 6-10, Bonnell teaches the claimed limitation wherein said user interface enables said selected alerts in response to an enable command, or disable said selected alerts in response to a disable command, wherein said alerts are displayed in an alert notification window that is configured to display the name of said component associated with one of said alerts; wherein said alert notification window is configured to display the recommended course of action associated with one of said alerts using graphical user interface 50, interface 54, event manager 52, database 47, and 49 (see fig. 2; col. 2-3).

As to claims 11-12, Bonnell teaches the claimed limitation of generating a notification regarding the status of at least one of said components in a computer, said notification comprising a first code which contains data about said component, said first code having a first data length using Agent software system 36, and event messages sent by agent software system 36 (see fig. 3; col. 2-4).

Bonnell further teaches receiving said notification at a remote computer, and transforming said notification into a user-friendly display message comprising a second data length, wherein

said second data length is significantly greater than said first data length using Manager software system 34 (see fig. 2; col. 2-4).

Bonnell does not explicitly state the limitation of a notification. However, Bonnell discloses an event manager that is responsible for keeping a record of various occurrences throughout the computer network including occurrence of alarm conditions and their resolution (see col. 2-7). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify Bonnell by specifying notifications in place of reporting of events as taught by Bonnell since the same functionality is achieved.

As per claim 13, Bonnell teaches the claimed limitation wherein the act of sending performs simple network management protocol SNMP transactions (see col. 14-15).

As to claims 14-17, the rejection of claims 1-13 is fully applied herein. Further, Bonnell does not explicitly teach the claimed limitation wherein said first code contains an index; wherein said status module uses said index to identify said user-friendly display message; wherein said index is predefined by a management information base; wherein said management information associates information about said component with said index; wherein said status module uses said information about said component from said management information base to generate said user-friendly display message. However, Bonnell discloses a knowledge module parser 44 that is responsible for accessing knowledge module 38 and parsing the information therein for use by knowledge database manager 46, which in turn creates and maintains database 47 of knowledge that is more readily useable by manager software 34, and event manager 52 that is responsible for keeping records of alarms in the network and their resolution, and hence perform the same functionality of the index (see fig. 2; col. 2).

The use of an index that points to a base of information is well known in the data processing art and therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify Bonnell by specifying a index in the event reported to the management console.

11-12, Bonnell teaches the claimed limitation of storing information about said enabled and disabled alerts; and wherein said log module stores a name of said component associated with one of said alerts using Knowledge manager database, and event filter (see fig. 4; col. 12).

As per claims 18-19, Bonnell teaches the claimed limitation of displaying a description of said notification and the recommended course of action associated with one of said alerts using graphical user interface 50, interface 54, event manager 52, database 47, and 49 (see fig. 2; col. 2-3).

Claims 20-27 do not teach or define any new limitations above claims 1-19 and therefore are rejected for similar reasons.

4. Claims 28-31 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Bonnell et al., U.S. Patent No. 5,655,081 in view of Giorgio, U.S. Patent No. 5,761,085.

As per claims 28-31 the rejection of claims 1-27 is fully applied herein. Further, Bonnell does not explicitly teach the claimed limitation wherein one of said alerts relates to the status of a fan, a temperature sensor, a power supply, or a fault isolation unit. However, Giorgio teaches a method for monitoring various parameters such as a fan, a temperature sensor, a power supply, or a fault isolation unit for equipment at network sites (see figs. 1-2; col. 4-6).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify Bonnell in view of Giorgio so that various parameters such as a fan, a temperature sensor, a power supply, or a fault isolation unit are monitored. One would be motivated to do so to optimize the working parameters of a network node.

5. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Johnson et al., U.S. Patent No. 5,689,637 teaches a console simulator, multi-console management system and console management distribution system. Komori et al., U.S. Patent No. 5,487,148 teaches a method and apparatus for detecting faults in a computer network. Dev et al., U.S. Patent No. 5,812,750 teaches a method and apparatus for monitoring status of nonpollable devices in a network. Jancke et al., U.S. Patent No. 5,764,913 teaches a computer network status

monitoring system.


6. a shortened statutory period for response to this action is set to expire **3 (three) months and 0 (zero) days** from the mail date of this letter. Failure to respond within the period for response will result in **ABANDONMENT** of the applicant (see 35 U.S.C 133, M.P.E.P 710.02, 710.02(b)).

7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Saleh Najjar whose telephone number is (703) 308-7613. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday from 7:30 to 4:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Ahmad Matar, can be reached on (703) 305-4731. The fax phone number for this Group is (703) 308-9052.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-9600.

Saleh Najjar  
Examiner Art Unit 2758

  
ZARNI MAUNG  
PRIMARY EXAMINER